

American Association of Woodturners

Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors was convened by teleconference at 6:00 p.m. central daylight time, on Wednesday, September, 20, 2017, with President Greg Schramek presiding.

Board members participating were Jeff Brockett, Joe Dickey, Kathleen Duncan, John Ellis, Wayne Furr, David Heim, Molly Winton, and Louis Vadeboncoeur. Staff members joining were Linda Ferber, Phil McDonald, and Kim Rymer. Editor Josh Friend also participated. The office fielded one member inquiry to monitor the call and this was accommodated.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 23, 2017, Board meeting were reviewed. David Heim moved to approve the minutes. John Ellis seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously accepted, as presented.

The minutes of a special Board meeting held on Tuesday, September 5, 2017, were reviewed. Molly Winton moved to approve the minutes. David Heim seconded the motion and the minutes of the special meeting were unanimously accepted, as presented.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

August 2017 Financial Reports

Joe Dickey summarized the August 2017 financial reports and noted the following points:

- Unadjusted net income as of August 31 was \$176.6k, \$53.8k favorable to budget.
- The year-end forecast for net income is \$78.1k, \$5.7k favorable to budget.
- August 31 "Cash on Hand" was \$566k.
- The year-end forecast for "Cash on Hand" is \$796k.

Joe Dickey reported that most revenue and expense items are on target and that the new Fidelity brokerage account is in place. 2017 symposium income and expense recognition is nearly complete giving indications for a net gain of about \$43k positive.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Membership Report

Phil McDonald reported that August membership acquisitions were 697, compared with the 834 target. The trajectory remains in-line with the planned 2017 growth plan.

Conference Direct

Phil explained that discussions about symposium process and performance improvements have been underway with Conference Direct since Kansas City. It was mutually decided that a change was needed in conference management planning leadership. Noelle Grinley, who was onsite supporting in Kansas City supporting Susan Tobin, will be taking over the conference planning and logistics. The transition is underway and no loss of continuity from the change is expected. Noelle is currently working on gathering detailed current pricing on all services.

Chapter Scholarship Program

Phil stated that AAW will receive money from the endowment, which has been typically used to fund chapter scholarships. Last year, there were 28 scholarships awarded to Arrowmont, John C. Campbell, and Anderson Ranch. Phil does not recommend that AAW continue the relationship with Anderson Ranch due to narrow registration timeline and substantially higher non-tuition expenses. The following prospective schools were mentioned: Red Rocks, Center for Wood Craftsmanship, Mark Adams, and North Bennett Street. The Board needs to decide whether to continue the grant program, or discontinue/postpone the program and use the \$10k toward Vision 2020 priorities. Further discussion was deferred to the October Board meeting.

Hurricane Relief

Phil has received inquiries about whether AAW has plans to offer assistance to fellow members who may have experienced losses due to recent hurricanes. He noted that AAW had a relief program that was discontinued in 2012 and cautioned the Board about over commitment. A chapter president offered prospective actions for exploration: 1) announce that grants from both the POP and EOG will be given to those affected by the hurricanes; 2) set up a special fund and solicit donations from both AAW chapters and general membership to be used for those affected by the hurricanes, 3) organize, solicit pieces, and have an online auction to raise money to supplement the special fund mentioned above. Phil noted that AAW has a constructive working relationship with the nonprofit CERF Plus Safety Net (CERF+), whose mission is to safeguard and sustain the careers of craft artists and to provide emergency readiness resources that benefit all artists. After a brief discussion, Phil indicated he would continue discussion of the topic outside of the meeting to flesh out the details.

2018 Budget

Phil stated that the anticipated timeline for the planning and development process for the 2018 budget is included in the ED report. The Board will have a more complete budget packet and in-depth discussion at the November face-to-face Board meeting.

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

John Ellis moved that the Board hold its January 2018 meeting at the symposium location in Portland, OR. Molly Winton seconded the motion. After discussion, Greg Schramek performed a vote.

YEA

Joe Dickey
John Ellis
Wayne Furr
David Heim
Molly Winton
Louis Vadeboncoeur

NAY

Jeff Brockett
Kathleen Duncan

The motion to hold the January 2018 Board meeting at the symposium location in Portland, OR, passed by a majority vote.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

Jeff Brockett reported that the Committee is beginning to determine all leads and has selected all demonstrators for the 2018 Symposium in Portland.

For the 2019 Symposium in Raleigh, the Committee has whittled a group of 60 potential demonstrators to about 30. The Committee plans to finalize the invitation list to 12-14 by the end of the month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- October 18 – Teleconference
- November 18-19 in St. Paul (face-to-face, November 17 fly-in date)
- December 13 - Teleconference
- January 20-21 (face-to-face, January 19 fly-in date)

All teleconference meetings are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. central time.

ADJOURNMENT

Wayne Furr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathleen Duncan seconded the motion and the meeting concluded at 7:04 p.m. central daylight time, on Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Duncan, Secretary